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of Copenhagen) and Fossum (an American philologist) both contend for the lands on either side of the estuary of the St. Lawrence River, making very plausible arguments; while both Hovgaard and Gathorne-Hardy place the most southerly points reached within the boundaries of the United States, the former placing the ultimate point in Rhode Island, while the latter pushes on to the western end of Long Island and the mouth of the Hudson River.

This disagreement seems to indicate that the problem of establishing a landfall is unsolved and unsolvable. And Gathorne-Hardy, despite the detailed presentation of his argument, concedes in his introduction that "the geographical details can probably never be settled with absolute finality".

Apart from the question of the landfall, the volume in hand is a readable and convincing book on the actualities of the Vinland voyages. It has both an adequate bibliography and an excellent index.

JULIUS E. OLSON.

John Wentworth, Governor of New Hampshire 1767-1775. By LAWRENCE SHAW MAYO. (Cambridge: Harvard University Press. 1921. Pp. xi, 208. \$5.00.)

JOHN WENTWORTH, last royal governor of New Hampshire, represents the attractive New England gentleman of colonial days, well-born, well-bred, well-balanced, in that charming, somewhat aristocratic circle of well-to-do Portsmouth and Exeter families who lived large lives in small towns whose Main Street led to the open sea.

One is tempted to apply to this excellent biography what Wentworth, in his ponderous eighteenth-century style, wrote to Jeremy Belknap on returning the latter's manuscript of the first chapter of the *History of New Hampshire*: "Your care in the composition disappoints the ambition of critical examination, and gratifies the more pleasing candour of friendship. Both combine in justifying my declaration that I cannot suggest an amendment."

The manuscript and printed sources have been used with discrimination; and where the reviewer has been able to examine the originals, he finds himself much in the position of Wentworth toward Belknap, and therefore unable to follow the author's modest request in his disarming preface, that the reader "will give me the benefit of his keener perception if he finds that I have been misleading". In the discussion of Wentworth's relation with his opponents, his correspondence with President Wheelock, and his attitude on the eve of the American Revolution, the author reflects something of the governor's own poise and balance in his judgments of men and situations, his wise reserves where the evidence is incomplete, his open candor which makes one feel that there is nothing suppressed.

The chapter on the Church and the College is admirable in temper

and illuminating in treatment, and it was worth while to bring out frankly the governor's Anglican tendencies; but there was, on the whole, more of co-operation than of distrust between Wentworth and Wheelock. The Wheelock correspondence does not seem to bear out the conclusion of the chapter: "probably the President of Dartmouth College felt more relief than he would have liked to admit when the outbreak of the American Revolution put an end to the ecclesiastical manoeuvres of Governor Wentworth." More in accord with the correspondence and the facts seems the conclusion of Chase: "the most serious blow that the college suffered by the change was the loss of its powerful and disinterested friend, Governor Wentworth." (*History of Dartmouth College*, I. 318.) In the very document cited by the author, a careful comparison would show in the matter of the charter of Dartmouth College that the draft transmitted by Wheelock contained the notable provision for religious freedom, but that the final form issued by the governor added the wise provision that the majority of the trustees should be laymen—two notably liberal features in an eighteenth-century charter which not only redound to the credit of the broad-minded Congregationalist and Anglican, but also illustrate their felicitous co-operation.

Wentworth's own breadth and insight are shown in his sympathetic understanding of both the English and the American positions in 1775, and in his abiding loyalty, even after his exile and loss of property, to "New Hampshire my native country". Particularly winning is his letter reciprocating John Adams's expression of affection. "I always loved John Adams." "My classmate", he added, writing at the time of Adams's election as President, "is the most perfect choice that could mark the good sense and sound judgment of the United States."

It is a pleasure to read a biography which so felicitously reproduces the best qualities of its subject and glosses nothing over. Worth doing and well done, it is a real contribution not only to the history of New Hampshire but to the understanding of colonial life and the two sides of the Revolution. The beautifully reproduced illustrations, especially the Copley pastel of Wentworth the year he granted the Dartmouth charter and contracted one more romantic Wentworth marriage, and the Copley painting of his bride, married at seventeen, and at twenty-four a widow for only two weeks until she became the governor's wife; the wide margins and excellent press-work, worthy of the press of Wentworth's *alma mater*; the author's saving sense of humor and occasional epigram, all combine to make an attractive book savoring of the gracious style of Wentworth House in Wolfeborough or Government House in Halifax.

HERBERT DARLING FOSTER.